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THE BURMA NEWS

JUNE, 1933

FROM THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONS IN BURMA

Our Newest Magazine

One of the most important of our Christian institutions in Burma, is to be specially featured in the July number of the Dammaletyone (Preachers' Quarterly). The Burman Women's Bible School, which has meant so much for the Christian training and spiritual life of women and girls in this country, is to be described by articles, as well as by pictures of Miss Teele and her helpers, the new building, the present students, one or two of the graduates, and also of Miss Ranney and Miss Phinney, who founded the school, and carried on the work there so successfully for years.

Friends will remember the Special Pwo Number of the Quarterly, which appeared in April, and proved such a success, with its handsome illustrations and excellent write-ups of the Pwo people and the Pwo work. The popularity of this April number caught us unprepared, as we had no idea how large an edition to print, and the demand exceeded the supply. People who did not send in their orders for the April number ahead of time, were later writing in for copies which could not be supplied to them. It is therefore suggested that those who wish copies of the coming July number, should send in their orders to me now, accompanied by payment for the copies desired. We regret the necessity of saying that orders not accompanied by payment, cannot be filled, as the Quarterly is supplied at such a very low price, four annas per copy, far below cost, that the expense of collecting arrears of payment, is too great in proportion. It would be possible to spend nearly a rupee in correspondence, to get a rupee!

Some of the pictures in the July Quarterly will it is hoped, be suitable for framing. The picture of Miss Ranney and Phinney will meet with especial acceptance among their hosts of friends, and the other pictures and the various articles, will make up a large and attractive magazine, with abundance of reading-matter. In order that we may have an approximate idea how large an addition to print, we would ask that all who are interested, send in their orders now to the undersigned.

In addition to the article and pictures concerning the Burma Women's Bible School, the Quarterly will continue the useful features, the Kagawa instalment, the Psychology, and the Book by Book series. There will also be the first instalment of a "Life of Spurgeon" written by Miss Ranney.

A. C. HANNA.

THE

BURMA NEWS

H. W. SMITH, *Editor.*

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"And he gave some.....teachers"

The message that lies on my desk thrills me through and through. It came last week and reads, "we shall look for you to teach Bible at the school next week." For weeks I have been planning, purposing, projecting in preparation for that job. The touch of the old captain's hand at the football game never had the kick in it that this message charges. "To teach Bible"? Rather, to teach live boys. To lead youth past the verbage of the Book into the vestibule of religious adventure; to guide them past the outworks of religion to the very citadel of God's presence; to venture with them in the gripping experience of applied religion to daily problems of life. That is a job to thrill any teacher. So forth I go as an architect seeking to trace the lines that design magnificent character. Forth I go as an artisan sharing in the construction of spiritual citizenship. Forth I go as an artist nerved with excitement in seeing pictures emerge upon the canvas of lives. That old miner I saw panning gold in a Colorado Creek was nervously eager about his job but not so gloriously thrilled as I am in anticipation of teaching those lads — yea rather sharing with them the mighty grip of adventuring in religion. It's great! It thrills!

FRANK ERNEST EDEN.

Southern Chins on the March!

The Southern Chins have been on the march away from their ancestral spirit worship towards Buddhism. The problem of the Chin missionaries has been not to get them started but to change the way they are going, and get them going on the "Jesus Road" which we call the Eastern Road, the road of the rising sun with a bright future for the Chins. The problem has been to awaken them to the fact that the road they are going on has no hope for the Chins; it is the western road with darkness and night ahead for the Chins. The urgency has been stressed and the Chins have been shown that now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation. The result of the attempt to awaken the Chins, and a result of the sowing of over forty years, has been that many more Southern Chins have started this year on the "Eastern Road" than ever before and all records broken. In 1932 there were over seventy more baptisms than in any previous year, bringing the year's total to 180. So far, in 1933, there have been 293 baptized. There would have been more if we had toured only in those sections where there are candidates for baptism. There are a number of villages with candidates for baptism looking forward to the coming of a pastor or the missionary. With the increased number of baptisms is a new spirit of hope and joy among the Chins.

Samo Tun Pa, one of the Chin preachers, after watching the missionary extract hundreds of teeth, and seeing what a "hold" it gives him on the people, has joined the exodontists and has extracted over 200 teeth since the 1st of January, 1933. I extracted only a little over 700 teeth in the first three months of 1933, bringing the total so far this term to over 4100 from at least fifteen different races.

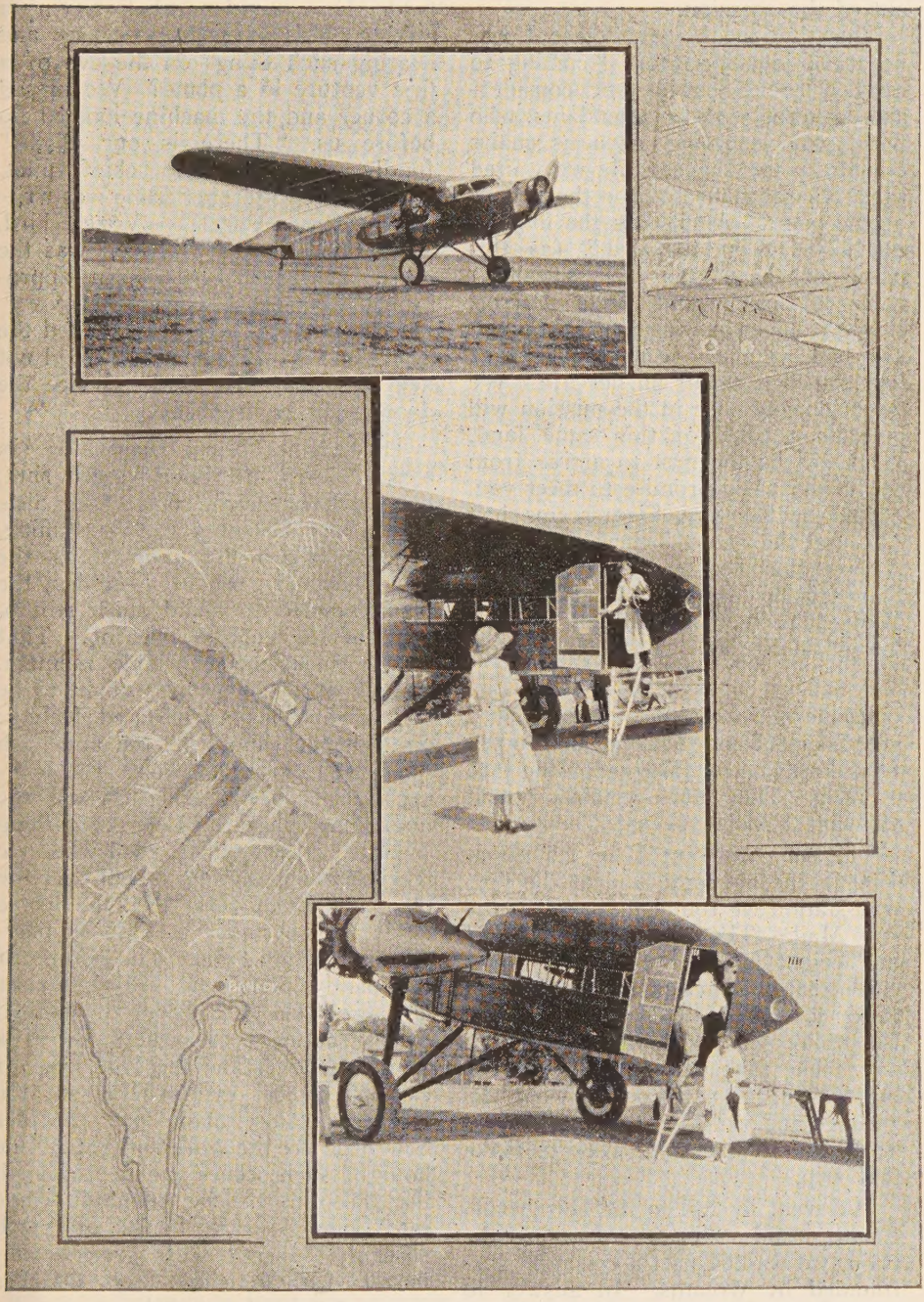
The two Daily Vacation Bible Schools this hot season the teachers say were, "the best yet." The attendance and interest was good and there were seventeen baptisms in each village after the schools closed. One was in the Henzada district and the other in the Prome district, west of the river, in the first Chin village I visited after an all-night ride in a bullock-cart, up and down hill, *sans* springs, *sans* shock absorbers, *sans* pneumatic tires, *sans* cushions, *sans* everything comfortable, a month after my first arrival at Thayetmyo twenty-one years ago.

E. Carroll Condict.

Air Travel

In the course of a year, we folks here in Rangoon meet a good many boats and trains. In "the good old days" when I came to Burma, the new and returning missionaries came all together at one time in the fall. They had a grand farewell when they left Boston and a grand welcome when they reached Rangoon. Then the Rangoon missionaries went home to wait an entire year for another such thrill. But travelling is a more individual matter these days and there is scarcely a month in the year that we do not wave a "goodby" or a "welcome" to someone. The latter occasion is becoming far too rare. At the trains, it is usually a welcome, though some have departed that way, using Moulmein as the port, or even Bassein and Tavoy.

But now we have added the Mingaladon Aerodrome to the places where we meet missionaries of the A. B. M.! It was a new and most happy experience indeed when Miss Peterson and I drove out to the airport to meet Miss Parrott on the morning of the 19th (May) returning from her vacation trip to Bangkok. We had waved "goodby" to her a month before when she left by steamer and as the day drew near for her spectacular return, I discovered she



ARRIVAL IN RANGOON

was not the only one getting a thrill out of the occasion.

This time at the aerodrome I was no mere idle spectator; "coming to meet a friend" gives one considerable standing with the attendants, who with great ceremony gave us chairs outside in the shade while we waited till 8-30, the hour set for the arrival of the plane. Almost on the minute, the silver "Paddy Bird" (as this plane of the Dutch line is called) came to earth and Miss Parrott stepped out as non-chalant as though she had come in from Maymyo or had travelled by air all her life. We hope someone else in the mission will give us a thrill of this same kind. Who will be the first to arrive from the West? We promise to meet you.

And by the way, Siam seems just "around the corner" these days. The Ambassador Bus came in from its Siam trip on Monday, Ma Hannah on Wednesday by train, and Miss Parrott by air on Friday. Elsie N. Chaney.

Requests have been made that I give impressions of the air trip taken from Bangkok to Rangoon on the 19th of May. They were certainly not at all what I had expected.

The company sent a car for me at 4-30 in the morning, and at the railway station we found the crew of the Air Mail. They informed me that my weight would not be taken into consideration when weighing the luggage, a rather unpleasant surprise. But there was very little excess to pay. The fare was Rs. 270 exceeding by only Rs. 30 or 40 what the steamer and railway fare would have been, and it takes one week to make that trip.

We went by rail to the aerodrome, fourteen miles distant. Leaving the train, we walked past a cenotaph surrounded by wreaths. In answer to my question the chief pilot said that it was here the only accident of the Dutch mail had occurred. An air pilot had been killed in taking off the field. How could one help having a mild conflict of feelings seeing and hearing such things on the eve of a first venture in a plane? We turned a corner and the machine loomed up before us. "There is our Bird!" fondly exclaimed the chief pilot. Under the cockpit, her name was written — "Russ Vogel" — Vogel, bird, "What is 'Russ'?" "Rice," was the reply. "Paddy Bird!" An appropriate name for a tropical plane.

They gave me what they called the best seat. Nevertheless one could not help reflecting how little service the door might be, in case.....

The engines began roaring at six o'clock sharp, the door banged shut, the mechanic came down the aisle with a bag of cotton for ear-stuffing, and we began thumping along the rough ground. All of a sudden, the plane seemed to stand stark still in spite of the engines' roaring. That was a most uncomfortable moment. Things were not as they ought to be and it gave one an irritated feeling; one felt one should get out and push the plane to help her move. But looking directly down, and that was the interesting place to look, everything began to grow smaller, until when we reached our maximum height over the plains of about 5000 feet, the whole landscape became a child's playground, a sand table. The outline of the paddy plots, the village houses appearing like a handful of pointed stones scattered on either side of a silver streamlet and the long lines of canals, canals everywhere on the Siamese plains, made one consider how little are the works of man. One hour of such scenes and to the north the foot-hills of the mountain came into view. Little knobs of earth absurdly covered with green cauliflowers with here and there matches thrown in for tree trunks.

At this time we were served with tea and biscuits by the mechanic, who

seemed also to be a pilot in embryo, for he took his place at the wheel at intervals with the first or second pilot. The radio man was busy sending and receiving messages.

I admired the cloud effects, the fleecy light ones seemed like a thin veil of cotton through which we could see the green of the great forests. Then we saw the huge bank of clouds, grayish in color, below, in the valleys and hugging the mountain sides. One hour of this and we sighted the sea. It must have taken us at least forty minutes to cross over the bay near Moulmein. We could see the green of the deep sea in streaks along the shores as the ocean bed deepened. We saw storms in the distance and as we passed through the clouds, a tiny rainbow formed on one side of our Paddy Bird. Then Burma and the ever-present pagodas. We had come down from a height of 9000 feet over the mountains where it was cold, to about 3000 feet while crossing the sea. I tried to see a human being in the villages of Burma but alas, aside from a tiny speck on a boat I saw nothing that resembled man, so little we are! And how insignificant our works. But even so, we are Creation's most wonderful product. I was meditating thus when I heard the chief pilot shouting in my ear, "Rangoon!" and looking to the left I saw Shwe Dagon sparkling in morning sunlight. What a small-looking town! The pilot pointed out the landing place. We made a great semi-circle and I had my second mental shock, — mind you, not a physical one. The ground rose up in a green wall. It seemed to touch the plane. A sickly sort of "What if" feeling came over me then, thump, thump, thump, we were on earth again and a minute later we saw Mrs. Chaney and Miss Peterson waving greetings. Rangoon, three hours to the minute from the time we left Bangkok and soared into the blue.

J. E. Parrott.

Mong Lem — Lahu

We began our dry season in November, by organizing a Gospel team with the purpose of visiting all our Christian villages and holding revivals. Ruth and the teachers worked up a musical program which was an inspiration to all who heard, and quite a change for these hill folks who are not privileged to see anything of the outside world. We held long meetings with the old men in each village and worked up the matter of more local support, and as a result this has been the best year we have ever had in the line of donations. There were quite a few non-Christians who had moved into different villages who accepted Christ and were baptized. We praise the Lord for the success of the work of the Gospel Team.

In December, we organized the preachers into groups and sent them into the non-Christian sections to begin work which was to be followed up later by me. Rev. Ca La made the longest tour and visited thirty-two villages along the wild Wa border. He had splendid results and 156 were baptized. We have a group of Christian villages on the north-western part of the field where I have never been. They are located on the Wa side of the line and pay only a little to the Chinese in taxes. Two of these villages have over 400 baptized members and they are a fine lot of earnest Christians. They have just built new chapels and the buildings rank the best on this field. The preaching groups covered most of the important villages of this field. Though we had several severe persecution cases, we closed the year with good advance along all lines. We rejoice that 362 new converts were added by baptism and two new villages.

Ruth and I made a hurried trip to Rangoon in January for supplies and dental work. We arrived home Feb-

ruary 23 and the teachers were all in, awaiting conference. I had telegraphed them from Rangoon, and we had a week of Bible study and made plans for touring among the villages along the Wa border. I had received an invitation from a head-hunting chief to visit his circle and looked forward to work there. We started our tour by visiting Mong Hka State. The people had never seen a white man and they ran from us like wild animals when we met them on the roads but were very friendly when we stopped at their villages. The two new villages baptized last year are in Mong Hka and the outlook for future work there is very bright. I expected to go from this State into the Wa country when we received word that the Chinese and Wa were preparing to fight. We met some of the head-hunters who requested that we wait till later to come as they had closed the roads and we might be mistaken for Chinese.

We kept to the east of the line visiting all the larger villages and spending a night in each, preaching and playing the phonograph for the children. Several villages stated their desire to accept Christ and the teachers will work them with a view to baptize later in the season. It was most unexpected that the Chinese and Wa were preparing to fight and our plans were badly broken, as some of the more important villages were moving their belongings before the fighting, which was inevitable, broke out.

The present magistrate of this district has made many changes among the local officials and in several cases has met with strong opposition. In one of the large Lahu sections where they have always had one of their own men as circle chief, he arranged for a Chinamen named Law Wei Fa to take charge. This section pays taxes to both the Wa and Chinese, and the Wa feel as if they ought to have some say in the matter. They have objected from the very first and stated clearly that they would not stand for the change. In January, Wei Fa managed to pull the strings so as to get the Lahu leader and four others arrested. Then another reason for the trouble is the opening of a bazaar in connection with plans to establish a salt mine. The Wa threaten to fight at once if such measures were carried out as the proposed mine is in their territory. The magistrate insisted that his orders be carried out and things came to a head on the early morning of March 25. I was in a village half a day's journey away and could hear the shooting at about 3 a.m. The Wa forgot their own village feuds and banded together with one accord and came across the line in hords. They first attacked the village where the Chinaman lives and took three heads, then burned the place. The wild Wa have a custom of whooping when they get a head and when the one group started whooping the others who were stationed in different parts of the section all whooped at the same time producing a most terrifying effect. They lost one man and burned another large village the same morning. The magistrate rushed into the circle with only a handful of men and had a very narrow escape which was only made possible by the strategy of the Lahu. He stayed in the section five days and there was steady fighting but it is difficult to say just how many were killed as reports are so conflicting. After he left, several other villages were burned and quite a few heads taken, also small children were taken to be adopted by the Wa. The section is in utter confusion at present and the Wa are preparing for a long, drawn-out fight with the Chinese as they know the latter are collecting men.

We stayed a few days after the fighting began as the Lord opened the door in a small section where as we

preached and baptized we could hear the shooting and roar of the local made cannon. We had seventy-seven baptisms and removed the spirit altars from five small villages. The work in that section will mean rich results after the fighting takes a turn, but for the immediate present we will be unable to travel.

This has been the worst dry season for robber bands I have ever known in this section. There are large bands roving all over the district. The officials seem not to be able to do anything about the situation. Not less than twenty villages have been attacked and several burned. The most daring raid was at the official's place, at Mu Nai. A band of eighty attacked and killed five of his servants and carried off two of his sons, one a baby of four months, who nearly died from lack of nourishment. The robbers later sent him back by a man who took him to the villages along the way and asked the women to nurse him. The robbers looted the place and took over five thousand dollars worth of goods. Several of the young women were also taken and so far have not been released. The robbers have taken advantage of the Wa trouble as they know the magistrate has his hands more than full. Four bands of robbers have passed the Mission within the last two weeks. The Lord has wonderfully protected us here and the outside Christian villages. May we ask your prayers at this time of anxiety and that the Christians and workers may be spared from the wicked intentions of evil men.

Harold M. Young.

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Summer Sessions at Pyinmana

The Fourth Rural Reconstruction Institute at Pyinmana, April 11 to 26, was attended by sixty-two persons coming from as far as Sagaing to Tavoy and Maubin districts or a radius of 300 miles. Some Burman Buddhists interested in scouting from near Rangoon were included.

Prof. Andrus of Judson College assisted by Ko Ko Gyi, one of his students, gave an instructive course on "Economics and Rural Life in Burma" which was the first time our College has been represented at our Institutes. Prof. Andrus took a number of trips to neighboring villages with our visitors and made surveys and discussed the results as to what might be done for the economic improvement of the village.

The hour assigned each day to various Departments of Government to tell of their contribution to Village Uplift was much appreciated. The Agricultural Department men gave three lectures on "Upland Crops," "Sugar Cane" and "Soil Fertility." Dr. Harper, head of the Co-operative Department, and three of his assistants paid us a visit and lectured on "Aims and Objects of Co-operation" and "Co-operative Marketing of Agricultural Produce." The Health Department gave three lectures and two moving picture shows in the evening on "Village Health" and at the latter our hall was crowded with an audience of about 800. The Police Department told us how crime is being reduced by small groups of law-abiding persons forming "Anti-Crime Associations" in each village to keep the police informed if any crime starts in the village. A judge told us about "Prevention of Litigation" and a Land Records Inspector about the work of his department and its aid to village welfare. Even the Imperial Chemical Industries Co. was represented by one of its agents who gave a lecture and showed moving pictures on "Fertilizers and Farming." The personal contact with these men and questions and answers brought out in the discussions proved that this feature of the program was very helpful. I hope we may be able to introduce something of this feature into the

All-Burma Baptist Convention when it meets at Pyinmana next October. The Government Departments are willing if the Progress Committee agrees.

Our nurse, Ma Laura, gave demonstrations on home nursing and one of our high school teachers, Ma Rutha, demonstrated the cooking of various economical Burmese dishes which seemed a peculiar kind of education to some. In the mornings, I gave courses on "Fruit Growing" and "Poultry Keeping" and in the afternoons, a course on "Village Recreation" taking up suggestions for games, stunts, socials, concerts and dramas in villages. In the Bible Course I took up the Sunday School lessons for the coming half-year.

The social events included two picnics and a social night. The last evening the visitors gave a concert which was well attended by the neighborhood and much enjoyed. It showed what a surprising amount of talent, for an evening of healthy fun, can be collected in a community if there are some workers to organize it. Two scenes from a dramatization of the story of Ruth were given as part of the program.

Next to the last night, the visitors told what they had learned of special help during the Institute and what they planned to do with it. Here are some of their statements: "I am going back to send many boys to this agricultural school." Another said, "I am going to demonstrate to my neighbors what Pyinmana methods can do and I want our Christians to come here and see them for themselves" A young man said, "I got interested in scientific agriculture by seeing cow boys in the moving pictures. Our chickens were dying with a disease and I came to learn how to stop it." Another said, "We have orange and monkey-nut trees and I want to show my people how to follow the methods learned here." A lady teacher said, "We have trouble getting rent from our farm land; I have learned new ways of using the land." Another, "I am going to show people how to graft mangoes." An old preacher said, "The methods of play I learned will help me preach better." A Buddhist teacher in charge of a school of 200 pupils and eight teachers said, "I have learned that things now being thrown away and wasted can become a source of wealth." A preacher who had attended many institutes said, "I didn't think there was much to learn going and visiting villages but I got a lot out of the survey method in finding out how people needed help." A high school girl said, "I will teach each home I can in my village what I have learned here about sanitation and the danger from stray dogs and getting rid of them. I am not good at cooking but I want to learn how now." A college student said, "I used to want to join the Government Civil Service and get a good position. Now I want to go out and help the villages. I have a new spirit of wanting to make friends."

A preacher who had been conducting one of the five Vacation Bible Schools in our field just before the Institute started said, "I held a class for the adults who came with the children and taught them what I had learned at the Pyinmana Institutes. During this past year I have demonstrated that improved crops resulted from the use of manure stored in a pit much better than from the use of manure which had been left out in the sun."

The final suggestion was that since improved practices were most readily taught to young people, it would be well to introduce the methods taught at our Pyinmana Institutes into the Boy Scouts organization in Burma.

Brayton C. Case.

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We fail to Shine as Leading Lights, unless we Guide some Ship to Port.

—Hugh Redwood.

Toungoo

The special edition of the NEWS for June came to hand much ahead of time. This is a splendid commentary on the efficiency of the staff at the Press. An interesting feature of the issue is that it all seems to be in blank verse and so far as we could see there were no personalities in the reports from the stations. It was a remarkably clean sheet this month.

Among those guilty of those blank spaces, I find myself obliged to count myself. Since our return in December, I think I have sent but one letter to the NEWS, not because I did not care, but because I let it go too long.

We have seen some encouraging signs on the field since our return. The school has kept up a very good attendance, registering 354 during the past year. The opening this year also is good, there being over 250 on the second day and from past experience we know that that is a good opening. We had a fine number of passes in seventh standard in March. Twenty-three took the examinations and nineteen passed, giving us a pass of 82.6 per cent., taking the Cushing High School examination.

The hot season has seen some very fine work done in D. V. B. S. work. There were five schools in which about twenty workers helped make the work a success. Village uplift work was undertaken in one village as well as the vacation Bible school work. From this village came a request to start a school with the promise of a school building being erected for the school. The request was signed by the village headman and elders of the village. It was in this village that I once had the experience of seeing a lot of men come into the house where I was staying, the house of the headman, armed with spears and *dahs*. A bit anxious, I asked the headman what it all meant and he replied that it was a bad section and he was taking precautions that no harm should come to me. The school building is now being erected and we hope the girl we are calling will come. She has an E. T. C. certificate, a midwife's certificate and has had over a year at the Bible school, thus being well-equipped to give a varied service to the villagers. The statistics are not all in yet, but it seems likely that the schools enrolled more than 150 boys and girls.

Several of our teachers were engaged in vacation Bible schools on other fields and report interesting and helpful experiences.

One of our boys has joined the agricultural school at Pyinmana. We sent him to the college retreat at Maungmagan this year and he was blessed in his spiritual life, but still hesitates to take the open step for Christ. He is active in the work of the Sunday school and C. E., and evidently has a spiritual experience. We hope to see the open stand for Christ taken soon.

Some requests for baptism have come in from the village where we opened the vacation Bible school this year. A Christian family has lived so that the villagers testify to their superior moral character and this is one of the influences which led to their asking me to open a school there. We crave the prayers of our brethren for these new ventures in Christ's name.

Lewis B. Rogers.

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Kachin Progress

The Kachin churches of the Bhamo district have developed a very laudable spirit of independence. Since Christmas, they have dedicated no less than six churches. These houses of worship were planned, built and paid for without ever consulting the missionary in charge of the field. As the work in the Bible School prevented my visiting the churches in the mountains, I was not even aware of these

building operations until I was invited to participate in the services of dedication.

The early houses of worship and the combination of church-school buildings were built more or less of the same material as their own, long, dark houses, namely, of wooden posts and the walls of bamboo with a grass-thatch roof. The heavy rains and the white ants put a heavy tax on the time of the Kachins, for these buildings had to be renewed every five of six years.

In the carpenter shop, the boys learned to use modern tools. They learned how to convert logs into building material. This knowledge was soon in evidence in the mountains. Mahogany and other good trees were converted into building material; in many cases, floors as well as walls were covered with planks, and corrugated iron replaced the grass-thatch. The posts, instead of being placed into the ground were placed on stone pillars, out of reach of the white ants. These six-feet long sheets of iron were carried by the men from the foothills up the mountain side, all the way from ten to twenty miles. As result of this united action on the part of the villages, we have now a number of nice, permanent houses of worship in the mountains and not one cent of American money has gone into them.

Since 1922, when Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Smith were in charge of the field, the churches have collected enough money to pay the salaries of all Kachin evangelists on the field; so that, since that time, no Kachin preacher has been paid from American funds. The four Karen preachers still receive their salaries from Mission funds, the twenty preachers and two Bible women are being supported by the churches on the Bhamo field.

I am sure if the Kachins had not from the very beginning been taught self-support and had not let the churches decide what salaries these workers should receive, no such numbers could be set to work with so small amount of money; for it would be difficult for any missionary to entirely divest himself of western standards of salaries or even of salaries paid to workers in Lower Burma, but when this matter was turned over to the Kachin leaders, they paid according to Kachin standards.

The result of all this is that these men and women think themselves as working under the direction of their own people and for their own people and not as "employees of the mission." The more we have of this kind of independence, the better it will be for the Christian church in Burma.

I well remember the time when we had two ladies looking after the Kachin vernacular school at Bhamo with about sixty pupils in all standards. Miss Frieda Peter who joined us in the work in Bhamo last February has now the care of paying the salaries of nineteen jungle schools with their thirty-eight teachers, the town Kachin school with 105 pupils in its five standards and, for good measure, the supervision of the Anglo-Vernacular school on the Shan-Burman compound which is about a mile from the Kachin compound. She will need every ounce of strength she has for this great task.

Geo. J. Geis.

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A. B. M. Girls' High School Mandalay

When the extraordinary plea for help reached my desk, I could not do otherwise than attempt a news article from our school.

School re-opened on May 23, with a larger enrolment than at this time last year. Each day sees many new ones entering but the sad thing to us is that there are fewer Christians in High School than ever before since I have been here.

During this last hot season we have had drinking fountains installed. The fountains have been in the building for several years but have never been installed. It has been very interesting to see the difficulties the children find in getting a drink of water. They very laboriously hold their hand over the opening where the waste water runs out and wait for the cup part to fill and then drink out of the cup part of the fountain. I never imagined any such difficulty at drinking! I thought people just naturally knew how to drink from a fountain.

No one has asked exemption from Bible study so far. We are teaching Bible classes for half an hour each day and the girls are taking a great interest in their work. The eighth standard is studying "New Testament Followers of Jesus," the ninth is studying "A Life of Paul" and the tenth is taking a course in "Problems in Living." We consider this only a part of our opportunity to influence the girls whose lives are under our care. The meetings are well attended and we are very pleased with the atmosphere in the whole school.

E. M. Cummins.

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Thonze

Well, we are back home again from Maymyo, after a fine vacation with such fine folks. We had a fine trip up and down with only one puncture, (but that was enough to patch in the heat). Such fine houses by the side of the road, occupied by such fine friends. Such a fine opportunity to distribute tracts to folks all along the way and we threw out, literally, thousands.

We found two big tanks of rainwater waiting for us, and we used some of it, too. The grass was beginning to get green and the flowers were happier. But then came a week of the hottest weather ever and the thermometer seemed to feel at home up around 100°.

We found the work had been going on steadily, and three new villages had been entered, one by the ordinary method of itinerant preaching; one by a Daily Vacation Bible School, and the last — well, that is a longer story:

More than ten years ago, I asked the pastor at Gyobingauk and Letpadan to make a tour of the villages near the foothills east of Okpo and Gyobingauk. They took the magic lantern and pounds and pounds of carbide and were gone for weeks with big crowds every night. They found several big Chin villages and stayed in some of them two or three nights. We have kept more or less in touch with them ever since, rather less than more, for the Gyobingauk pastor was called by the Thonze Church and has had his hands full here.

In March of this year, we organized a new church at Donweh, east of Zigon and Gyobingauk. Some people from these Chin villages were there. They were greatly interested and asked the preachers to come and visit them before the rains. So in a few weeks, the pastors of Zigon and Gyobingauk and the Association Bible Woman, Ma Dun Sein, went and stayed with them for ten days, did personal work every day and had a big meeting at night. On the last Sunday, twenty-eight *men* were baptized.

After a couple of week's rest they have gone back for another ten days' work calling the Bible Woman from Thonze and her sister who was a student at the Bible school. They are going to try to win some of the wives and daughters of these men who have been baptized, for Christians homes are the stuff from which to build good Christian churches.

The Zigon Field is looking up again. Fifty-one have been baptized since the first of the year and fifty-eight from the Thonze field. Eight Vacation Bible Schools were run from one to three weeks each.

We are sending eight students to the Seminary this year, four new and four old. All the new ones are seventh standard men and one eighth. We tried them out in the work of the Bible Schools.

I am marooned in Rangoon with a dog bite and daily jabs at the Pasteur Institute but will be out in less than two weeks.

Schools have opened up well. We hope to reach last year's enrollment.

J. T. Latta.

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Judson College

On receiving permission from the Board of Managers, I turned over the principalship of the College to Vice-Principal Rickard on April 12, while we were both in Taunggyi. No mention of this happened to appear in the NEWS of May and a good many letters intended for the principal have continued to come to me.

Providentially, the authority for turning over this work of administration was delayed no longer, for a message from London made it clear that I must increase my teaching work for the coming rains owing to U Hla Bu remaining at King's College. In order to meet the new situation, I must teach one advanced honours course during the hot season vacation in Taunggyi.

The news that U Hla Bu was being urged to extend his State Scholarship course with the hope of securing the degree of Ph.D. was fully as welcome to me as to anyone though I had depended upon his help for the year. I confess that, for a time, this news nearly took my breath away. But the exhilarating climate of Taunggyi has served me well as I have kept steadily at work to meet the need.

Acting Principal Rickard has my warmest sympathy as he undertakes to carry the administration of the College in connection with his duties as head of the department of English. Besides working into all of the current problems of the College and also of the University, there is the task of raising the remainder of the funds necessary to settle for the construction of the Chapel. It is very important that this be done without delay that the time of dedication may see the money all in hand and make it possible to pay the reserved portion which will be due to the contractor as well as to settle for the furniture. The amount now needed is less than one-tenth of the original contract price and yet it is a substantial sum and calls for serious effort in these days of financial depletion. I propose to still aid in this by added personal gifts as well as to encourage others to do the same. If this responsibility is accepted by the whole Mission as its own and a steady pull together is made, the task will be easy. The plan is to dedicate the Chapel late in July in connection with the annual University Convocation as that usually brings an unusual number of visitors from distant places.

Wallace St. John.

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Bible School on Site of Judson's Prison

A group of five of us have just returned from the village of Aungbinlè, where we have had a vacation Bible school for the last twelve days. This is the third year for holding the school there. The advances which the children have made since the first year can scarcely be put down on paper. Teaching them to obey by loving them rather than making them fear us is bearing its fruits. Obedience and order have become more natural. And how they sang! I actually feared lest their lusty singing would widen the bad cracks which have appeared in one end of the little chapel.

There were about fifty children enrolled in the school. These were

divided into three groups. This is the first year that we have used the Junior lessons which take up the life of Christ consecutively. The children in that class have grown up with the school. They responded remarkably to the stories. "The woman at the well" was an expression which they took over for anyone who did not behave properly. They talked among themselves of how they despised Judas and the soldiers who put such a good, kind, and wonderful man as Jesus to death. And how their faces just beamed when they heard, on the following day, that this wonderful Friend who had died on the Cross arose from the dead and is alive to-day. The Bible woman who taught this class did a splendid piece of work.

The wee children too had their comments to make. I overheard one little girl say, "At the priests' school they whip us, but they never do in this school." Sitting among them one morning, before school opened, I was turning over the pages in the vacation school book and as they saw the pictures they exclaimed spontaneously concerning the story pertaining to each picture. Thoughtfulness written on the faces of a good many of these children, during the story period, made us frequently thank God for His work among us and pray for wisdom in guiding and teaching them.

In the homes which we visited we found a gladness and a welcome which has grown warmer and warmer. One little boy thought that he must come back with us. Many said, "We are going to long for you very much." I am sure that they will, for they have learned under guidance how to play together, and how to use their idle time in constructive work. (They made chemises, bags, fans, and toys during the handwork period.)

It was very hot for the first several days. Then it began to rain. And it rained until the close of the school. In previous years we had suffered from a scarcity of water. This year we had an abundance — in fact more than we should have chosen. It hindered me from getting into town with the car. Our food supplies got very low. But for each day God provided through gifts which friends sent out and from the leaves of the trees and vines nearby and field crabs enough for each day's needs. The car is still out there in the village parked under the preacher's house waiting until the roads dry up sufficiently to get through.

The spirit of the workers was at top-notch for willingness and wholeheartedness in service. God gave us a great blessing. The village preacher reminded us of the fact that we must not sit back entirely satisfied, by saying at the close of the final session, "Next year we shall have a still better school."

We are praying for a way to repair the little chapel which will fall if not cared for soon, and also a way to repair the brick bridge nearby, which has a broad crack entirely across it and is unsafe for travel. This village work is much on our hearts. We love the people and they are learning to love us too. Many of us used to think that this village was unapproachable. The vacation school has done wonders. The two weeks' experience there are a great inspiration to us at the beginning of this new year of work.

Marian H. Reifsneider.

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Maymyo

On May 1, twenty-four happy believers were baptized, of whom thirteen were Kachin soldiers and nine were Kachin women, descendants of demon-worshippers, who have become new men and women in Christ Jesus. Thus does the kingdom of God make successful inroads upon the kingdom of Satan, and "the house of

David wax stronger and stronger." Two weeks later, there was a notable baptism of a young Gurkha woman, intelligent and attractive, who had been dismissed from the home of her married sister because she had renounced Hinduism and followed Christ. She celebrated her conversion, as did Matthew of old, by a Christian service in her new home and with refreshments. Contrary to all expectations, her youngest brother, a Hindu, came to the joyful gathering, joined in the singing of hymns, partook of the refreshments, and himself contributed towards cost of same! We are now praying earnestly for *his* conversion.

Dennis Maulle, a Nepalese Gurkha, the only convert in a village of 500 inhabitants, rejected by his parents because he had been baptized, who has completed his first year in the English Department of our Seminary at Insein, has been spending three weeks of his vacation in evangelistic work among the 600 Hindu Gurkhas employed by the Burma Corporation. His diary of the experiences of those three weeks' effort to win his fellow-countrymen to Christ, lies before me and makes most interesting reading. Interviews with Hindu priests, catechized for two and a half hours by twenty-two Hindus inside the walls of their temple, distribution of tracts and gospels, quiet talks with individuals and groups, are some of its features. Please pray for Dennis and for his parents, and his village of Barbhatia with its 500 inhabitants, and for those 600 miners upon whose lives the LIGHT has shined to some feeble extent, that glorious victories of Divine Grace may be wrought in them.

Fellow-missionaries from Rangoon and other stations, who have been spending some weeks of the "hot season" at this hill-station, have been of substantial help to this church by their presence and coöperation. We are grateful to them; through their sojourn in our midst, the members have a larger vision of the Kingdom-enterprise being carried on by our Mission.

Owing to deaths, and transfers to other centres in Burma, our membership has been considerably decreased. Four of our young men, high-school graduates, are this year entering Judson College. We are proud of them and follow them with loving thoughts and fervent prayers.

Ernest Grigg.

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Appropriations

The following cable of interest to all was received a few days ago:—

"Deficit of General Society — budget for current fiscal year $56,000.00 but — exchange — savings will take care of – leaving – surplus – $4,100.00 in anticipation reduced income — reduction of $50,000,00 must be made in total-budget-as previously announced — March 6, of this year — work appropriation not likely to be reduced — more than 10 per cent. of authorized budget for fiscal year 1933-34. Letter with full information follows – Accumulated deficit Woman's Society $23,000,00. Permission is granted for return of Burma Mission all except Mr. Woodbury, possibly Mr. Weeks. (Signed by) Sandberg, Burr, Robbins, Huntington."

We shall have to await the letter for an exact statement of the situation. My understanding of the cable is as follows: The unusual exchange advantage to the Boards last year was such that the General Board resulted in a slight surplus and the Woman's Board have much less of a deficit than was expected. Therefore, it is not likely that there will be any further reductions than already made in the appropriations allotted plus the 90 per cent. spending budget. Their former cable put us on a three months 90 per cent. spending budget for the appropriations allotted. This is the adjustment for which the Ref. Com.

has already prepared. We are all glad the year ended better than was anticipated. But we already see that the exchange rate for the rupee has dropped from about 400 rupees to about 330 rupees to one hundred dollars. This coming year does not promise salvation by exchange.

I have just been to Moulmein in connection with Dr. and Mrs. Halliday's handing over the many lines of interest which they have cared for so well. We are all so sorry that on account of ill health it is necessary for Dr. Halliday to be relieved from the many burdens he has been carrying. He has done it so quietly and unassumingly that most people have not appreciated the amount of work he was looking after. They are greatly beloved by all, and their assistance will be greatly missed. It is being planned for the present that Mr. Hackett will take over the Leper Asylum work, Miss Ragon will take over the accounts of the Karen field and the Indian work. Saya Chit Pyu will take over the Mon field work. The hardest part to take care of is the pastorate of the English Church. I preached Sunday evening to a splendid congregation, which made me feel keenly the need of making provision for this work. It is proposed that Mr. Hackett carry on as usual, preaching twice a month. U Ba Tin is willing for the present to supply the pulpit once a month. The Church looks to Rangoon to supply volunteer helpers once a month paying the travel expense. When a 5th Sunday comes in a month or any other emergency, the local people will make some special arrangement for it. Thus we have sought to make it possible to carry on the Moulmein work until the fall, when we hope that Mr. and Mrs. Weeks will be with us. We fear that it is ill health that is keeping them at home just as it keeps Mrs. Woodbury.

This coming week-end we are looking forward to a trip to Maubin for a little outing and also to render any assistance we can be to them, by request of Mr. Fletcher, in case the opening of the new year brings up any questions where a missionary's advice is sought. Probably Maubin is no exception to the rule that this time of year is the time when many problems hatch and present themselves, mostly, financial. The Fletchers are still in Taunggyi taking advantage of the free time given them for language study and to prepare for taking over the work at Maubin sometime in July. We are so glad Maubin is to have a resident missionary family.

C. E. Chaney.

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New Address

Our address henceforth will be 49 Pelham St., Newton Centre, Mass., and we shall be glad to welcome missionaries from Burma, here in the first home of our own, that we have ever had in America. Setting up one's own home is an interesting process at any age, even 70 plus.

With kindest regards to all our friends in Burma.

John E. Cummings.

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Customs Declarations

March 31, 1933.

To all Mission Treasurers
and Shipping Agents.
Gentlemen:

A recent shipment from the field was found to be packed in native straw or hay when it was opened for customs inspection. The inspector pointed out to us that this is in violation of shipping regulations and advised us to warn all of our people not to use packing material of this kind in future.

It has also been pointed out to us that all articles which cannot be classified as a missionary's household or personal effects; that is, house furnishings, clothing, toilet articles and so forth, but are obviously things

which they have recently purchased or have received as gifts, must bear a stamp showing the country in which they were made. Wooden articles such as carved elephants and so forth may be stamped in an inconspicuous space with a rubber stamp. Articles of metal which do not bear the stamp "Made in Burma," "Made in Japan" and so forth may be so labelled by a printed slip which is pasted to the bottom of the article.

Very truly yours,
D. F. De Trude,
Shipping Department.

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Rest House Prizes

The awards for contributions to the Maymyo Rest House, 1933 Log, are as follows:—

Photography:—Mr. Rogers.
Poetry:—Miss Parish.
Prose:—Mrs. Condict.

The prizes will be despatched to the winners. Even though the contest is past, I shall be glad to receive additional photographs and copies of verses or speeches having to do with this hot season. W. B. C.

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Language Examination

Rev. Geo. D. Josif passed his advanced Burmese Examination in March. C. E. Chaney.

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Sailed.

On April 8, by S. S. *Pegu* Mrs. G. A. Sword and daughter Ruth.
On May 2, Mr. R. J. Journey, and Wallace, for America, *via* India and the Continent.

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Pastor Available

The Bible revision work on which Saya U Tha Din and I have been engaged for the past six years is nearing completion and only a few weeks more of work remain. He will then be ready for a pastorate or some other form of Kingdom service, and the earnest Bible study of the past six years ought to make him more useful than ever before in the work of the Lord. We hope that he may not be long without a call. For the present, he may be addressed at Maymyo.

J. McGuire.

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Medical Examinations of Missionaries.

It is the policy of the Burma Mission to require a medical examination of each missionary once a year. Kindly make your own arrangements to have these done. Any of us, mission doctors, will be glad to do these when we are asked. If we are not available or you would prefer to have some other doctor, please arrange with another doctor to do it. There are fourteen ladies from the Women's Board, eighteen men and thirteen ladies of the General Board who are on the field who have had no examination since 1931. Blanks for these examinations can be procured either from the Field Secretaries office or from me. When they are filled out kindly have them returned to me.

At the last January meeting of the Reference Committee, it was voted to require missionaries to have periodical vaccination against typhoid fever. It did not define the length of the periods. I quote the London School of Tropical Medicine as saying that they should be once a year. When you send me your medical blanks filled in, will you kindly state when you had your last injections against typhoid fever. Personally, I consider these just as important as the annual examination, if not more so.

I will probably be in Rangoon during the latter part of June and can arrange to give typhoid injections to the Rangoon Missionaries if they would care to have me. Kindly let me know if you want them.

A. B. Grey,
Medical Advisor.

BURMA MISSION DIRECTORY

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Miss L. P. Bonney
Office, 121D Mission Rd., Rangoon Tel. Address, Baptisma
Mission Treasurer — Miss O. A. Hastings

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